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SUSTAINING

455

ADVERTISER

WRITER

UNCLE SAM'S FOREST RANGERS

PROGRAM TITLE

OK

WMAQ BLUE

CHICAGO OUTLET 11:50 12:30 PM

OCTOBER 3, 1941

FRIDAY

(TIME)

(DATE)

(DAY)

PRODUCTION

ANNOUNCER

ENGINEER

REMARKS

1. ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Rangers!

2. MUSIC: THEME Uncle Billy, you just leave those aliases alone. Mary

3. ANNOUNCER: In a message to the people of Cody, Wyoming, during the

4. MARY: recent 50th anniversary celebration of the establishment

5. of the Shoshone National Forest, Secretary of Agriculture Claude R.

6. Wickard made this statement: quote, "For years, America exploited and

7. misused her land. But today we are aware of our mistakes of the past,

8. and are determined to remedy them. We can make America a land of

9. abundance for all of our people and we are determined to do it.....To

10. this end," the Secretary said, "we must use our land and water resources

11. wisely and productively, not only in emergency, but for all time. I

12. cannot conceive of a really satisfactory future for the American people

13. if we ignore the one-third of our land which is, or should be, in forest.

14. America needs the products of the forest, including timber, grazing land,

15. watershed protection, wildlife, and recreation, just as she needs the

16. products of cultivated fields and orchards..." Secretary Wickard's

17. final words were these: "As a nation," he said, "We are started, but only

18. started, on the road which will lead to genuine conservation of our

19. resources and to the use of our land in such a way that it will be most

20. productive today, tomorrow, and all the tomorrows to come."

21. JIM: Now, let's see what's happening on the Pine Cone National

22. Forest. As we look in at the Ranger Station we find our friends just

23. finishing supper. At the table are Ranger Jim Robbins and his wife Bess,

24. his assistant Jerry Quick and Jerry's sweetheart, the local schoolteacher

25. Mary Halloway, and as special guest here's Mr. William Smith, more

affectionately known to his many friends, as Uncle Billy. It seems to be

sort of a festive occasion, and...well, here they are.....

ANNOUNCER: Uncle Sam's Forest Ranger!

MUSIC: THEME

ANNOUNCER: In a message to the people of Cody, Wyoming, during the recent 50th anniversary celebration of the establishment of the Shoshone National Forest, Secretary of Agriculture Claude R. Wickard made this statement: quote, "For years, America exploited and misused her land. But today we are aware of our mistakes of the past, and are determined to remedy them. We can make America a land of abundance for all of our people and we are determined to do it....To this end," the Secretary said, "we must use our land and water resources wisely and productively, not only in emergency, but for all time. I cannot conceive of a really satisfactory future for the American people if we ignore the one-third of our land which is, or should be, in forest. America needs the products of the forest, including timber, grazing land, watershed protection, wildlife, and recreation, just as she needs the products of cultivated fields and orchards..." Secretary Wickard's final words were these: "As a nation," he said, "we are started, but only started, on the road which will lead to genuine conservation of our resources and to the use of our land in such a way that it will be most productive today, tomorrow, and all the tomorrows to come."

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1. FADE IN CLATTER OF DISHES AND SILVERWARE

2. BESS: Now, Uncle Billy, you just leave those dishes alone. Mary

3. and I can handle them.

4. MARY: Why of course, Uncle Billy. You sit back and.....

5. UNCLE: I like to help. I allus useta help Sary, God rest her.

6. JIM: Yes, we know, Uncle Billy, but we didn't invite you over

7. here tonight so's we could put you to work. No sir.

8. JERRY: Think we ought to tell Uncle Billy about the surprise

9. now, Jim?

10. MARY: Surprise? What surprise, Jerry?

11. JIM: Suppose we just wait with that until Bess and Mary finish

12. clearing off the dishes, Jerry.

13. BESS: Yes, I think you're right, Jim. Why don't you all go into

14. the living room and get comfortable? Mary and I won't

15. be long.

16. UNCLE: Waal, now. I don't know what all this is 'bout but I kin

17. wait, I reckon. Young feller, that's one thing old age'll

18. teach yer when she oatches up with yer. Patience....Never

19. mind helping me, Jerry. I kin get up myself.

20. SOUND OF CHAIRS SCRAPING BACK

21. JIM: You're plumb right about patience, Uncle Billy. Jerry's

22. always been inclined to be a mite impetuous.

23. UNCLE: I'd say you was, too, Jim Robbins, the way you're

24. practically a shovin' me.

25. JIM: I'm just holding your arm, that's all. The living room's

in this way.

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in this way.

1. UNCLE: (CHUCKLES) That's good. Jest aholdin' my arm, he says.
2. You jest can't bear to leave me in here with the girls,
3. can you? All right, lead the way, Jim.
4. BESS: (LAUGHING) We'll join you soon, Uncle Billy. Come on,
5. Mary.....
6. MARY: What in the world is all (FADE) this about, Mrs. Robbins?
7. SLIGHT PAUSE
8. JIM: (FADING IN) How's that chair, Uncle Billy? Easy enough
9. for you?
10. UNCLE: Jest fine, Jim. Jest fine. Say what you foolin' with
11. over there, Jerry?
12. JERRY: (OFF) Oh, it's a....a...phonograph, that's all.
13. UNCLE: Phony graf, huh? Yeah, I see it is, now. And that's a
14. rec..oord you got there in your hand, ain't it?
15. JIM: How you been feeling these days, Uncle Billy?
16. UNCLE: Pretty pert, Jim. Pretty pert, And yet....waal, I guess
17. I ain't quite so spry's I uster be...Say, what's keeping
18. the ladies?
19. JERRY: (LAUGHING) Now, who's getting impatient?
20. UNCLE: All right, young feller, no smart talk outa you.....
21. (CHUCKLES) That's tellin' 'im, huh Jim?
22. JERRY: I'm all set, with the machine, Jim.
23. JIM: Good. Here comes Bess and Mary, now.
24. BESS: (COMING ON) Well, that didn't take us so long, did it?
25. UNCLE: Tuh tell the truth, Bess, I thought you'd never git her.

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 5. Mary.....
 4. BESS: (LAUGHING) We'll join you soon, Uncle Billy. Come on,
 3. can you? All right, lead the way, Jim.
 2. You just can't bear to leave me in here with the girls.
 1. (CHUCKLES) That's good. Just sholdin' my arm, he says.

1. MARY: Will somebody please tell me what all this is about? The
2. suspense is terrible. And what's that on the table? Why,
3. it's a new phonograph, isn't it?

4. JIM: (CHUCKLES) Well, Mary, if you'll stop firing all those
5. questions I'll let you and Uncle Billy, here, in on the
6. big secret ...

7. UNCLE: Look here now, Jim Robbins, don't you try to tomfoolery on
8. me, y'hear?

9. BESS: Jim wouldn't do that, Uncle Billy.

10. JIM: I'm just sorry it took us so long to get all this up, Uncle
11. Billy. Well, this is it....You had a birthday last week,
12. didn't you, Uncle Billy?

13. UNCLE: Who told yuh that? It's that scalawag of a grandson of
14. mine's been talkin.....

15. JIM: Never mind who told me. You did have a birthday and.....

16. BESS: And even though we're late this is a birthday party - for
17. you, Uncle Billy.....

18. MARY: I'm beginning to understand now. Happy Birthday, Uncle
19. Billy.

20. UNCLE: Shucks.....I ain't done nothin' to deserve any party.....

21. JERRY: A fellow doesn't get to be the most respected and best-loved
22. old-timer around here by doing nothing, Uncle Billy.

23. JIM: No sir. You've packed more good deeds into your 80 years
24. than

25. UNCLE: Who sez I'm eighty? I'm seventy-nine years old, that's all.
And besides I can't claim nothin' special I've ever done. Now
take yourself, Jim....You've.....

1. JIM: This is your party, Uncle Billy. And we'll leave it to
 2. Mary here if what we're going to do now doesn't prove how
 3. you've contributed somethin' mighty important to the
 4. progress and development of this community.

5. UNCLE: Huh? What yuh gonna do?

6. BESS: Uncle Billy, remember that Old-timers Night they had in
 7. Winding Creek here a few years ago?

8. UNCLE: Acourse I remember it. It was a good party even if Jim here
 9. did make me get up and speechify.

10. JERRY: It was one of the best speeches I've ever heard, Uncle Billy.

11. UNCLE: Pshaw! It warn't a bit good, was it, Mary?

12. MARY: I.....I don't remember, Uncle Billy.

13. BESS: I think you were out of town, Mary, when the Old-Timers Night
 14. was held.

15. JIM: What you didn't know, Uncle Billy. was that one of the boys
 16. from Willow Glen made a recording of that speech while you
 17. were talking.

18. UNCLE: How d'yuh mean.....a recording, Jim?

19. JERRY: Jim's right, Uncle Billy. He took it down on a recording
 20. machine; and this is the record right here. Jim got it
 21. from him the other day. The fellow that made it....you
 22. might know him, it was Tom Wilson,....well, he figured Jim
 23. would like to have the record, so he sent it here.

24. UNCLE: Waal, I dan't see how.....

25. JIM: Put it on, Jerry. Now you listen carefully, Mary and see if
 Uncle Billy's speech isn't one of the best you ever heard.

This is your party, Uncle Billy. And we'll leave it to
 Mary Jane if what we're going to do now doesn't prove how
 you've contributed something mighty important to the
 progress and development of this community.

What? What you gonna do?

Uncle Billy, remember that old-timers might they had in

Wandering Greek here a few years ago?

Remember I remember it. It was a good party even if Jim here

did make me get up and speechify.

It was one of the best speeches I've ever heard, Uncle Billy.

Remember it wasn't a big good, was it, Mary?

I....I don't remember, Uncle Billy.

I think you were out of town, Mary, when the Old-Timers

was held.

What you didn't know, Uncle Billy, was that one of the boys

from Willow Glen made a recording of that speech while you

were talking.

Now that means....a recording, Jim?

That's right, Uncle Billy. As soon as down on a recording

machine and this is the record right here. Jim got it

from him the other day. The fellow that made it....you

might know him, it was Tom Wilson....well, he figured Jim

would like to have the record, so he sent it here.

Well, I don't see how....

But it is here. Now you listen carefully, Mary and see if

Uncle Billy's speech isn't one of the best you ever heard.

1. JERRY: All right, here goes.....

2. SOUND: OF RECORD PLAYER STARTING, NEEDLE SCRATCHING, SLIGHTLY FILTER JIM

3. AND UNCLE BILLY'S SPEECH

4. JIM: (FILTER) Ladies and Gentlemen.....I am now going to call

5. on our oldest old-timer, our friend and fellow-townsmen,

6. Uncle Billy Smith.....

7. APPLAUSE.

8. UNCLE: (OVER APPLAUSE) Say, by gum that's Jim all right, ain't it?

9. MARY: S-s-h-h.

10. JIM: (FILTER) If you think it'll be too tiring, standing up and

11. talking, Uncle Billy, just sit right where you are and talk

12. to us. We don't need to be formal at a gathering like this.

13. UNCLE: (FILTER) Mr. Toastmaster Jim Robbins, when I gits so

14. confounded old that I hez to sit while I'm a-doin' my

15. public speakin', I'msgoin' to quit comin' to these here old

16. timer's doins. (APPLAUSE)

17. JERRY: (OVER APPLAUSE) I guess he told you off, Jim.

18. JIM: Yeah!

19. UNCLE: Quiet, both of yer! Let a man talk.

20. APPLAUSE FADES

21.

22.

23.

24.

25.

1. UNCLE: (FILTER) Waal, ladies and gents.....I'm agittin' too old
2. fer doin' much else 'sides sittin' and thinkin' an goin'
3. fishin in season. Thinkin and fishin' I kinda works together
4. anyhow.....onw don't interfere with the other, specially....
5. Waal, off'n on, I bin athinkin' ... Ibout last Halloween time,
6. some kids come around my cabin gitten for mischief, an'
7. I heard 'em de-fidgetin' around, so I went out and I says
8. to 'em, I says: "Boys, this here destroyin' property 'round
9. here ain't right." I says, "The fellers who's ownin'
10. this here property is apayin' for yer schoolin' and payin'
11. for that new gymnasium we're afixin' to build fer yuh, all
12. of 'em bein yer friends." I says, "It's them yer hurtin'
13.Your own friends.....an' by hurtin' 'em yer distroyin'
14. yer own pleasure an' happiness an' yer future prospects."
15. You know, folke, that sorta got them boys an' they said
16. they'd quit an', by gum, they did. (APPLAUSE)
17. MARY: (OVER APPLAUSE) Uncle Billy, you were grand!
18. BESS: Listen, Mary.
19. APPLAUSE FADE OUT
20. UNCLE B: (FILTER) Waal, I bin thinkin' about that, off'n on, like I
21. said...an' I bin thinkin' mebbe us old-timers was a lot like
22. them kids, some ways. We done a lotta hard work in our day,
23. clearin' land an' gittin' our farms and ranches established
24. and gittin' roads built into 'em an' buildin' our schoolhouses
25. an' so on, startin' from nothin'...but we also done a heap
of scrappin' and squabblin' and tryin' to git hold of each

(MORE)

1. UNCLE B: (CONT'D) other's property and wastin' an destroyin' public
2. property which we should a bin conservin' fer our own
3. good. We fit over the ranges, each tryin' to git our stock
4. up on 'em so's to git a couple more stems o' grass than
5. the other feller; an' we cut up an' burned up whole big stands
6. o' timber, wasteful like, without stoppin' to think where
7. we'd be when there warn't no more; and we was wasteful an
8. unthinkin' a lot o' ways like that....just like them kids...
9. wastin' and destroyin' without thinkin' what it meant....By
10. gum, I bin thinkin', what's goin' to keep this here little
11. town of ours goin'? What's it goin' to keep goin' on, I'm
12. askin'? Waste land an' bare soil, washin' away in the rain,
13. ainta goin' to keep it goin'. Bare soil and rocks, with
14. the grass all et up and tramped out, ain't goin' to raise us
15. no fat steers to ship out at the cattle-loadin' siding. Bare
16. soil ain't gonna keep the lumber mill over 'cross the tracks
17. yonder agoin', 'cause how's the mill goin' to keep arunnin'
18. if we don't keep trees agrowin' up in the hills? Bare soil
19. and rocks ainta goin' to bring no city-folks up here summer-
20. times for recreatin' and, incidentally, spendin' cash money
21. in this here county. An' what's of pertikklar personal
22. interest to me, bare soil ainta goin' to keep feedin' clean,
23. fresh-runnin' streams where a feller kin go afishin'....By
24. gum, it's what's back of this here town that's goin' to keep
25. it goin'.

(MORE)

(COFFIN) "I don't want to waste my money on anything."

property which we should be conserving for our own.

Good. We'll over the range, each trying to give our

up on 'em side to get a couple more acres of grass than

the other fellow; and we cut up and burned up whole bags

of timber, wasted like, without stopping to think what

we'd be doing them: wasn't no sense; and we was wasting

nothing, a lot of ways like that.... Just like them

wasting, and destroying, without thinking what it means

good. I don't think, what's going to keep this here

town of our gain? What a lot of gain to keep gain, and

ask? "I don't know," says he, "I don't know, away in

state, just to keep it going. I don't know, and

the grass will be cut and burned off, and it's going to

no end seems to him, and he's not thinking of it.

and, you know, I don't know what's going to keep this

country going. "I don't know," says he, "I don't know

to go on, keep this country, as it is, and

and make some gain, to what no difference we have

cases for ourselves, and, incidentally, for

in this here country. And, what's the result?

thousand to me, I don't know what's going to keep this

country going, I don't know what's going to keep this

1. UNCLE B: (CONT'D) It's the good soil in the valley, an' the grass
2. an' trees agrowin' on the hills ... pervidin' we use
3. 'em right. We old timers didn't use 'em none too good.
4. We run too many stock on the range, an' we clean-cut up in
5. the timber, an' we set around careless-like lettin' fire
6. clean up any little bit we left.....That's how come we got
7. such a lot of wasteland hereabouts, which we gotta start
8. abuildin' up all over again. An' meantime, what we got
9. left, in the way o' timber an' all, we gotta use right ...
10. else this here town'll peter out and quit kickin'.....That
11. young ranger over there, a little while back, he didn't do
12. much talkin', not ramblin' on like your Uncle Billy here
13. but

14. MARY: (OVER UNCLE BILLY) That was you, wasn't it, Jerry?

15. JERRY: Uh huh.....Listen.....

16.
17.
18.
19.
20.
21.
22.
23.
24.
25.

1. UNCLE: (FILTER) He said something worth thinkin' on. He said
 2. somethin' 'bout "permanence" an' "stability." I ain't
 3. much on them high-faultin' words, but I git what he was
 4. adrivin' at, all right ... meanin' this: we gotta use
 5. them things like timber and soil and range an' all...we
 6. gotta use 'em right. Meanin' this: while we're usin'
 7. the ranges, we gotta keep more grass agrowin' on 'em; while
 8. we're acuttin' timber we gotta keep more timber growin' up,
 9. and so on. Us old timers has seen a lot in our day an' we
 10. ought to of learned a lot, but, by gum, some of us ain't
 11. lived long enough yet to learn what that young ranger was
 12. atalkin' about. And any time that young ranger starts
 13. stalkin', by gum, I'm alistenin'....Them forest rangers
 14. has got a lot of new-fangled words for what I bin a-talkin'
 15. about...conservation, sustained yield, an' so on...but, by
 16. bum, I calls it jest plain common-sense....~~Well~~ that's all I
 17. gotta say.

18. APPLAUSE

19. RECORD PLAYER CUTS OFF

20. JERRY: Well, that's it, folks....

21. JIM: Uncle Billy, you sure packed a wallop in that speechifyin'
 22. of yours, as you put it.

23.

24.

25.

UNCLE: Aw, Jim, it wasn't that good, was it?....But, looka here
...you..uh..you reckon I could git me one of them there
records? I could mebbe borry a machine to play it on
sometime...(CHUCKLES) Y'know..sometime when I has the
other boys up to the house...I could rub it in kinda, if
I had me that record.

JIM: (LAUGHS) This is your record, Uncle Billy. We used it to
copy off your speech and now it's yours...And..another thing..
That little phonograph is yours, too. A birthday gift from
all of us around here, to you.....

UNCLE BILL: Waal, I...I...doggone....

ALL: Happy birthday, Uncle Billy!

FADE OUT ALL LAUGHTER AND AD LIBBING

MUSIC FINALE:

ANNOUNCER: Folks, Ranger Jim Robbins wants us to tell you that copies
of Uncle Billy's speech are available, and any of you who
want one can get a mimeographed copy by simply dropping a
post card to the U. S. Forest Service, Washington, D.C.
Send a post card to the U. S. Forest Service, Washington,
D.C. and ask for a copy of Uncle Billy's speech....Uncle
Sam's Forest Rangers comes to you each Friday over the
Nationl Farm and Home Hour as a presentation of the Forest
Service, United States Department of Agriculture.

4:25 bc
10-1-41

